Beautification near Jama Masjid

1325.SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Municipal Corporation of Delhi has drawn up a plan for the beautification of the surroundings of and the passages and roads leading to Jama Masjid in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the cost likely to be incurred thereon and the time required for the purpose;

(c) whether the expenditure required for the purpose would be shared by Delhi Administration, Delhi Development Authority, Municipal Corporation of Delhi and the Central Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and the Government of NCT of Delhi have reported that a preliminary plan has been drawn up for beautification of the surroundings and the passages and roads leading to Jama Masjid. The proposed action plan has been submitted to Hon'ble High Court on 16.11.2005.

Further MCD has informed that the preliminary budget for the redevelopment plan is estimated at Rs. 93.50 lakhs. The period for implementation of the detailed plan is estimated as 19 months.

(c) and (d) The MCD and the Govt. of NCT of Delhi have informed that no decision has been taken with regard to the sharing of the expenditure.

Earthquake resistant buildings

1326. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked the State Governments to enforce safer building codes more vigorously in view of the frequent disasters due to earthquakes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the State Governments who have not yet enacted any building laws/ code; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard keeping in view the frequent earthquakes and other natural disasters taking place in the country?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Construction of buildings is governed and regulated by Building Bye-laws/Regulations framed by respective States/Urban Local Bodies. The National Building Code, 2005 published by Bureau of Indian Standards under Ministry of Consumer Affairs contains, *inter-alia*, a chapter on Structural Design (Part 6), which gives all the provisions for structural safety. Further, Model Building Bye-Laws brought out by Town & Country Planning Organisation (TCPO) under this Ministry also contains a section on Structural Design, which mentions that design of foundation, masonry, timber, plain concrete, reinforced concrete, pre-stressed concrete and structural steel shall be carried out in accordance with Part 6 of National Buildings Code. Both National Building Code, 2005 and Model Building Laws are advisory in nature and have been circulated to all the State Governments for their adoption.

Ministry of Urban Development has been impressing upon the States from time to time by way of letters, workshops and conferences to suitably amend their existing bye-laws and regulations to ensure earthquacke resistant houses and buildings.

A model Town & Country Planning Legislation, Zoning Regulation, Development Control and Building Regulation/Bye-laws for safety against Natural Hazards, including earthquakes, have also been prepared by an Expert Committee constituted by Ministry of Home Affiars. All the States have been advised to amend their respective Acts/Bye-laws/Regulations so that construction activities are regulated with respect to safety against earthquake hazards.

Buildings Materials & Technology Promotion Council under the Ministry of Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation has been holding workshops to help the State Governments in amending there Acts/Bye-laws/ Regulation for safety against natural hazards, including earthquake, and to disseminate recommendations of the Expert Committee at the instance of Ministry of Home Affairs.

(c) This information is being collected from the States.

(d) As already stated in reply to part (b), the subject of building construction, framing of building bye-laws/codes and its enforcement are

the responsibilities of State Governments and Urban Local Bodies. The Central Government has been pursuing and sensitizing the State Governments on this matter so that safety norms for building construction are brought into practice and enforcement mechanisms established at the earliest.

Engineer working in DDA

†1327. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are 2,200 Engineers working under the DDA at present;

(b) if not, the actual number thereof;

(c) whether residential projects are being executed by the DDA; and

(d) if so, the number of said projects and the details of the other projects?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has reported that 2138 Engineers are working in its various zones/units.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) DDA has reported that at present, it is executing 31 housing projects. In addition DDA has taken up planning in respect of 29 projects of various categories.

Migration to Cities

†1328. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that migration towards cities in search of employment has been continuously increasing during last one decade;

(b) if so, Government's estimates in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to above migration, availability of residential or other basic human facilities in cities, especially in metropolitan cities is falling short; and

(d) if so, the details of the shortage of residential and other facilities in Delhi, Chandigarh, Mumbai, Bangalore and Kolkata?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.